SECRET

M/R: Meeting between Mr. Helms and Dr. BRUECKNER

At 1100 on 11 June 1956 [   ] introduced
[   ] to Dr. BRUECKNER in the CIA briefing room, 117 Central
Building. Also present was [   ]
retired momentarily to make some telephone calls. Conversation
between Helms and BRUECKNER started in English but switched to
German when Helms told BRUECKNER that he understood and could
speak some German.

The usual amenities where exchanged and Helms told BRUECKNER
that we would be pleased to assist BRUECKNER where we could.
BRUECKNER remarked that his briefing by [   ] as indeed
most helpful and that he was very pleased with the reception and
treatment he had received.

Helms asked BRUECKNER about his specific role in the German
police and BRUECKNER said that he was chief of the unit which
had charge of security of high government officials and federal
buildings in which they worked (and lived), and also that his unit
had charge of investigating cases of treason and high treason for
the federal courts.

BRUECKNER mentioned that the Otto JOHN case was probably very
familiar to Helms, whereupon the latter asked what had happened to
JOHN. BRUECKNER said that JOHN was in jail in Heidelberg where he
was awaiting trial at some future date. Helms asked whether JOHN was
actually in jail, or out on bond. BRUECKNER said that he was actually
in jail.

Helms asked if there were any new developments in the case.
BRUECKNER said that the Security Group had been given some letters
which Wolfgang WOHLGEMUTH had written to persons in the West in
which WOHLGEMUTH denied that JOHN was drugged prior to going to
East Berlin.

BRUECKNER said that when JOHN is brought to trial, it is hoped
that WOHLGEMUTH can appear as a witness. BRUECKNER said that as
far as is known, WOHLGEMUTH is free to move around in the East and
that the only thing which is probably keeping him from returning West
is uncertainty as to what charges he would be faced with on his return.

BRUECKNER said that JOHN's defection East was a most unfortunate
happening, especially since he offered himself to such good psychological
exploitation. BRUECKNER said that JOHN was not qualified for the job
as head of the BfV and that his immaturity and instability should have
been noted.

Helms said that he was happy to have talked to BRUECKNER and
that he hoped his visit would be profitable and enjoyable. BRUECKNER
thanked Helms for having stopped by and expressed his appreciation for
the attention which he was receiving.

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After Helms left the room, he immediately called the Director's secretary and stated that he felt the Director would be interested in talking to BRUECKNER. The program was consulted and a tentative arrangement (later confirmed) was made for BRUECKNER to see the Director at 1000 on Tuesday, 12 June.